

The Honorable Robert S. Lasnik

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
AT SEATTLE

DEVIN A. WHITTIER, Individually,

Plaintiff,

v.

SEATTLE TUNNEL PARTNERS, a joint
venture; HARRIS REBAR SEATTLE, INC., a
Delaware corporation, and HNTB
CORPORATION, a Delaware corporation,,

Defendant.

Civil Action No. 2:17-cv-00751-RSL

**AMENDED STIPULATED PROTECTIVE
ORDER**

NOTE FOR MOTION CALENDAR:
October 3, 2018

1. PURPOSES AND LIMITATIONS

Discovery in this action is likely to involve production of confidential, proprietary, or private information for which special protection may be warranted. A Stipulated Protective Order was previously entered by Central Steel, Inc. and Plaintiff Devin Whittier. The sole purpose of this Amended Stipulated Protective Order is to extend the scope of that Protective Order to Defendants named in this suit as signatories and by their agreement to be bound by it. Accordingly, the parties hereby stipulate to and petition the Court to enter the following Amended Stipulated Protective Order. The parties acknowledge that this agreement is consistent with LCR 26(c). It does not confer blanket protection on all disclosures or responses to

AMENDED STIPULATED PROTECTIVE ORDER -
1
(2:17-cv-751)

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1 discovery, the protection it affords from public disclosure and use extends only to the limited
2 information or items that are entitled to confidential treatment under the applicable legal
3 principles, and it does not presumptively entitle parties to file confidential information under
4 seal.

5 **2. "CONFIDENTIAL" MATERIAL**

6 "Confidential" material shall include the following documents and tangible things
7 produced or otherwise exchanged: confidential financial information, employment personnel
8 files containing private and confidential information, and tax documents produced by nonparty
9 Central Steel, Inc. (pursuant to a subpoena served by Plaintiff), which concern employees (or
10 former employees) of Central Steel, Inc. but not Plaintiff Devin Whittier.

11 **3. SCOPE**

12 The protections conferred by this agreement cover not only confidential material (as
13 defined above), but also (1) any information copied or extracted from confidential material;
14 (2) all copies, excerpts, summaries, or compilations of confidential material; and (3) any
15 testimony, conversations, or presentations by parties or their counsel that might reveal
16 confidential material. However, the protections conferred by this agreement do not cover
17 information that is in the public domain or becomes part of the public domain through trial or
18 otherwise.

19 **4. ACCESS TO AND USE OF CONFIDENTIAL MATERIAL**

20 **4.1 Basic Principles.** A receiving party may use confidential material that is
21 disclosed or produced by another party or by a non-party in connection with this case only for
22 prosecuting, defending, or attempting to settle this litigation. Confidential material may be
23 disclosed only to the categories of persons and under the conditions described in this agreement.
24 Confidential material must be stored and maintained by a receiving party at a location and in a
25 secure manner that ensures that access is limited to the persons authorized under this agreement.

1 **4.2 Disclosure of “CONFIDENTIAL” Information or Items.** Unless otherwise
2 ordered by the court or permitted in writing by the designating party, a receiving party may
3 disclose any confidential material only to:

4 (a) the receiving party’s counsel of record in this action, as well as employees of
5 counsel to whom it is reasonably necessary to disclose the information for this litigation;

6 (b) the officers, directors, and employees (including in-house counsel) of the
7 receiving party to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary for this litigation, unless the parties
8 agree that a particular document or material produced is for Attorney’s Eyes Only and is so
9 designated;

10 (c) experts and consultants to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary for this
11 litigation and who have signed the “Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound” (Exhibit A);

12 (d) the Court, court personnel, and court reporters and their staff;

13 (e) copy or imaging services retained by counsel to assist in the duplication of
14 confidential material, provided that counsel for the party retaining the copy or imaging service
15 instructs the service not to disclose any confidential material to third parties and to immediately
16 return all originals and copies of any confidential material;

17 (f) during their depositions, witnesses in the action to whom disclosure is reasonably
18 necessary and who have signed the “Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound” (Exhibit
19 A), unless otherwise agreed by the designating party or ordered by the Court. Pages of
20 transcribed deposition testimony or exhibits to depositions that reveal confidential material must
21 be separately bound by the court reporter and may not be disclosed to anyone except as permitted
22 under this agreement;

23 (g) the author or recipient of a document containing the information or a custodian or
24 other person who otherwise possessed or knew the information.
25

1 (h) Defendants named in this suit which are signatories to this Amended Stipulated
2 Protective Order.

3 **4.3 Filing Confidential Material.** Before filing confidential material or discussing
4 or referencing such material in court filings, the filing party shall confer with the designating
5 party to determine whether the designating party will remove the confidential designation,
6 whether the document can be redacted, or whether a motion to seal or stipulation and proposed
7 order is warranted. Local Civil Rule 5(g) sets forth the procedures that must be followed and the
8 standards that will be applied when a party seeks permission from the Court to file material
9 under seal.

10 **5. DESIGNATING PROTECTED MATERIAL**

11 **5.1 Exercise of Restraint and Care in Designating Material for Protection.** Each
12 party or non-party that designates information or items for protection under this agreement must
13 take care to limit any such designation to specific material that qualifies under the appropriate
14 standards. The designating party must designate for protection only those parts of material,
15 documents, items, or oral or written communications that qualify, so that other portions of the
16 material, documents, items, or communications for which protection is not warranted are not
17 swept unjustifiably within the ambit of this agreement.

18 Mass, indiscriminate, or routinized designations are prohibited. Designations that are
19 shown to be clearly unjustified or that have been made for an improper purpose (e.g., to
20 unnecessarily encumber or delay the case development process or to impose unnecessary
21 expenses and burdens on other parties) expose the designating party to sanctions.

22 If it comes to a designating party's attention that information or items that it designated
23 for protection do not qualify for protection, the designating party must promptly notify all other
24 parties that it is withdrawing the mistaken designation.
25

1 **5.2 Manner and Timing of Designations.** Except as otherwise provided in this
2 agreement (see, e.g., second paragraph of section 5.2(a) below), or as otherwise stipulated or
3 ordered, disclosure or discovery material that qualifies for protection under this agreement must
4 be clearly so designated before or when the material is disclosed or produced.

5 (a) Information in documentary form (e.g., paper or electronic documents and
6 deposition exhibits, but excluding transcripts of depositions or other pretrial or trial
7 proceedings): The designating party must affix the word “CONFIDENTIAL” to each page that
8 contains confidential material. If only a portion or portions of the material on a page qualifies
9 for protection, the producing party also must clearly identify the protected portion(s) (e.g., by
10 making appropriate markings in the margins).

11 (b) Testimony given in deposition or in other pretrial proceedings: The parties and
12 any participating non-parties must identify on the record, during the deposition or other pretrial
13 proceeding, all protected testimony, without prejudice to their right to so designate other
14 testimony after reviewing the transcript. Any party or non-party may, within fifteen days after
15 receiving the transcript of the deposition or other pretrial proceeding, designate portions of the
16 transcript, or exhibits thereto, as confidential. If a party or non-party desires to protect
17 confidential information at trial, the issue should be addressed during the pre-trial conference.

18 (c) Other tangible items: The producing party must affix in a prominent place on the
19 exterior of the container or containers in which the information or item is stored the word
20 “CONFIDENTIAL.” If only a portion or portions of the information or item warrant protection,
21 the producing party, to the extent practicable, shall identify the protected portion(s).

22 **5.3 Inadvertent Failures to Designate.** If timely corrected, an inadvertent failure to
23 designate qualified information or items does not, standing alone, waive the designating party’s
24 right to secure protection under this agreement for such material. Upon timely correction of a
25

1 designation, the receiving party must make reasonable efforts to ensure that the material is
2 treated in accordance with the provisions of this agreement.

3 **6. CHALLENGING CONFIDENTIALITY DESIGNATIONS**

4 **6.1 Timing of Challenges.** Any party or non-party may challenge a designation of
5 confidentiality at any time. Unless a prompt challenge to a designating party's confidentiality
6 designation is necessary to avoid foreseeable, substantial unfairness, unnecessary economic
7 burdens, or a significant disruption or delay of the litigation, a party does not waive its right to
8 challenge a confidentiality designation by electing not to mount a challenge promptly after the
9 original designation is disclosed.

10 **6.2 Meet and Confer.** The parties must make every attempt to resolve any dispute
11 regarding confidential designations without Court involvement. Any motion regarding
12 confidential designations or for a protective order must include a certification, in the motion or in
13 a declaration or affidavit, that the movant has engaged in a good faith meet and confer
14 conference with other affected parties in an effort to resolve the dispute without Court action.
15 The certification must list the date, manner, and participants to the conference. A good faith
16 effort to confer requires a face-to-face meeting or a telephone conference.

17 **6.3 Judicial Intervention.** If the parties cannot resolve a challenge without Court
18 intervention, the designating party may file and serve a motion to retain confidentiality under
19 Local Civil Rule 7 (and in compliance with Local Civil Rule 5(g), if applicable). The burden of
20 persuasion in any such motion shall be on the designating party. Frivolous challenges, and those
21 made for an improper purpose (e.g., to harass or impose unnecessary expenses and burdens on
22 other parties) may expose the challenging party to sanctions. All parties shall continue to
23 maintain the material in question as confidential until the Court rules on the challenge.
24
25

1 **7. PROTECTED MATERIAL SUBPOENAED OR ORDERED PRODUCED IN**
2 **OTHER LITIGATION**

3 If a party is served with a subpoena or a court order issued in other litigation that compels
4 disclosure of any information or items designated in this action as "CONFIDENTIAL," that
5 party must:

6 (a) promptly notify the designating party in writing and include a copy of the
7 subpoena or court order;

8 (b) promptly notify in writing the party who caused the subpoena or order to issue in
9 the other litigation that some or all of the material covered by the subpoena or order is subject to
10 this agreement. Such notification shall include a copy of this agreement; and

11 (c) cooperate with respect to all reasonable procedures sought to be pursued by the
12 designating party whose confidential material may be affected.

13 **8. UNAUTHORIZED DISCLOSURE OF PROTECTED MATERIAL**

14 If a receiving party learns that, by inadvertence or otherwise, it has disclosed confidential
15 material to any person or in any circumstance not authorized under this agreement, the receiving
16 party must immediately (a) notify in writing the designating party of the unauthorized
17 disclosures, (b) use its best efforts to retrieve all unauthorized copies of the protected material,
18 (c) inform the person or persons to whom unauthorized disclosures were made of all the terms of
19 this agreement, and (d) request that such person or persons execute the "Acknowledgment and
20 Agreement to Be Bound" that is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

21 **9. INADVERTENT PRODUCTION OF PRIVILEGED OR OTHERWISE**
22 **PROTECTED MATERIAL**

23 When a producing party gives notice to receiving parties that certain inadvertently
24 produced material is subject to a claim of privilege or other protection, the obligations of the
25 receiving parties are those set forth in Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(b)(5)(B). This

provision is not intended to modify whatever procedure may be established in an e-discovery order or agreement that provides for production without prior privilege review. The parties agree to the entry of a non-waiver order under Fed. R. Evid. 502(d) as set forth herein.

10. NON TERMINATION AND RETURN OF DOCUMENTS

Within 60 days after the termination of this action, including all appeals, each receiving party must return all confidential material to the producing party, including all copies, extracts and summaries thereof. Alternatively, the parties may agree upon appropriate methods of destruction.

Notwithstanding this provision, counsel are entitled to retain one archival copy of all documents filed with the court, trial, deposition, and hearing transcripts, correspondence, deposition and trial exhibits, expert reports, attorney work product, and consultant and expert work product, even if such materials contain confidential material.

The confidentiality obligations imposed by this agreement shall remain in effect until a designating party agrees otherwise in writing or a court orders otherwise.

IT IS SO STIPULATED, THROUGH COUNSEL OF RECORD.

DATED this 3rd day of October, 2018.

s/Gretchen M. Paine

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ORDER

PURSUANT TO STIPULATION, IT IS SO ORDERED.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that pursuant to Fed. R. Evid. 502(d), the production of any documents in this proceeding shall not, for the purposes of this proceeding or any other proceeding in any other court, constitute a waiver by the producing party of any privilege applicable to those documents, including the attorney-client privilege, attorney work-product protection, or any other privilege or protection recognized by law.

DATED this 9th day of October, 2018.


Robert S. Lasnik
United States District Court Judge

EXHIBIT A

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
AT SEATTLE**

DEVIN A. WHITTIER,

No. 2:17-cv-00751

Plaintiff,

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND
AGREEMENT TO BE BOUND**

v.

SEATTLE TUNNEL PARTNERS, et al.,

Defendants.

I, [FULL NAME], of [FULL ADDRESS], declare under penalty of perjury that I have read in its entirety and understand the Stipulated Protective Order that was issued by the United States District Court for the Western District of Washington on _____, 20__, in the case of _____ v. _____, No. _____. I agree to comply with and to be bound by all the terms of this Amended Stipulated Protective Order and I understand and acknowledge that failure to so comply could expose me to sanctions and punishment in the nature of contempt. I solemnly promise that I will not disclose in any manner any information or item that is subject to this Amended Stipulated Protective Order to any person or entity except in strict compliance with the provisions of this Order.

I further agree to submit to the jurisdiction of the United States District Court for the Western District of Washington for the purpose of enforcing the terms of this Amended

AMENDED STIPULATED PROTECTIVE ORDER -
11
(2:17-cv-751)

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1 Stipulated Protective Order, even if such enforcement proceedings occur after termination of this
2 action.

3 Date: _____, 20__.

4 City and State where sworn and signed: _____

5 Printed Name: _____

6
7 Signature: _____
8 LEGAL:05488-0658/10048880.1